State Energy Program

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY STATE ENERGY PROGRAM

THE BENEFITS

The State Energy Program helps to:

- Deploy new energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and practices
- Leverage federal, local, and private funds for maximum effectiveness
- Focus projects to meet community needs
- Educate individuals and organizations about energy-saving opportunities
- Provide communities with technical support

The Program

The U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program (SEP) provides leadership to maximize the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy through communications/outreach activities, technology deployment, and accessing new partnerships/resources. The State Energy Program (SEP) operates in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Territories.

The State and Territorial Energy Offices ("States") act as catalysts for developing and deploying energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and measures. States design and conduct energy projects tailored to meet community needs, economic conditions, and climatic variations. This collaborative approach maximizes achievement of national goals and State priorities.

This photovoltaic test system utilizes a new generation of hybrid equipment to power Utah's Dangling Rope Marina.

Operation

The Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs within Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy manages the State Energy Program through the six DOE Regional Offices.

DOE allocates SEP grants based on a formula of available funds. Grantees are required to provide a matching contribution of at least 20 percent of allocated federal funds. DOE also competitively awards Special Projects funding for cost-shared technology projects that focus on the priorities of national energy technology programs.

Strategic Focus

The SEP Strategic Plan for the 21st Century defines three key program goals for 2010:

Key Goal 1: Maximize energy, environmental, and economic benefits through increased collaboration at the federal, State, and community level.

Key Goal 2: Increase market acceptance of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies, practices, and products.

Key Goal 3: Use innovative approaches to reach market segments and meet policy goals not typically addressed by market-based solutions.

These goals set a focused course for SEP that draws on the program's State-based strengths and flexibility. Fundamental strategies for meeting the key goals include:

- ✓ Expand communication and outreach;
- ✓ Accelerate technology deployment;
- ✓ Develop partnerships and access new resources.

BUILDINGS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Buildings that are more energy-efficient, comfortable, and affordable . . . that's the goal of DOE's Office of Building Technology, State and Community Programs (BTS). To accelerate the development and wide application of energy efficiency measures, BTS:

- Conducts R&D on technologies and concepts for energy efficiency, working closely with the building industry and with manufacturers of materials, equipment, and appliances
- Promotes energy/money saving opportunities to both builders and buyers of homes and commercial buildings
- Works with State and local regulatory groups to improve building codes, appliance standards, and guidelines for efficient energy use
- Provides support and grants to States and communities for deployment of energy-efficient technologies and practices.

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Program Activities

In accordance with national energy goals, State Plans must include certain mandatory activities, such as lighting efficiency standards, promotion of car/van pools and public transportation, and procurement practices to improve energy efficiency.

States are encouraged to address additional optional activities to promote greater deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and measures. States have utilized the flexibility in SEP to tailor projects to address specific issues, such as:

- ▲ Sustainable development
- ▲ Waste minimization
- ▲ Utility restructuring
- ▲ Urban sprawl
- ▲ Emissions mandates
- ▲ Disaster recovery

Accomplishments

The wide range of activities carried out under SEP produces significant energy, economic, and environmental benefits that accrue to communities, States, and the nation as a whole.

- ✓ Energy efficiency retrofits performed in over 69,000 buildings since 1979.
- ✓ Approximately 6,300 jobs supported annually.
- ✓ States leverage an average of $4 for every $1 of DOE funding for SEP projects.
- ✓ In four cycles of SEP Special Projects, States leveraged $33 million to supplement $51.9 million of DOE funding for 520 projects.

The success of the SEP is directly linked to the creativity and insight which individual State and Territorial Energy Offices bring to address the problems and opportunities unique to their communities.

Children in grades K-12 learn about energy efficiency through SEP education programs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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April 2000 DOE/GO-102000-0984